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closed granules of hæmatosine. Although the existence in the blood of these large cells containing red globules is nothing new, nevertheless Cornil is the first to insist upon their multiplication in typhoid fever. The mesenteric glands, according to Cornil, are always inflamed in typhoid fever, in a manner analogous to the acute or subacute inflammation due to suppurative lymphangitis. — *The Medical Record, from Lyon Médicale.*

JAMES W. QUEEN & CO. — This well-known firm has been once more dissolved, Mr. Cheyney carrying the department of philosophical apparatus with him to Bond Street, New York city. The remaining partners, S. L. Fox and W. H. Walmsley, retain the microscopical branch of the business at the old stand and under the old name. Microscopists will find G. S. Woolman in charge of their department at the New York store.

RAPHIDES IN ENCHANTER'S NIGHTSHADE. — The *Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club* suggests sections of the enchanter's nightshade (*Circæa Lutetiana* L.) as an interesting microscopical study, the leaves, stem, and root being crowded with raphides, and the cells of the pith being filled with small transparent ball-like bodies.

A POLARISCOPE OBJECT. — Hairs of common gromwell (*Lithospermum officinale* L.) are said to polarize beautifully under the microscope.

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SCIENTIFIC NEWS.

— The following remarks by the editor of *Nature*, though referring to science in England, are not perhaps out of place in an American journal: —

"By looking to general science, again, the government avoids the difficulties which must necessarily accompany, with all the fluctuations of trade, any attempt to teach applied science except in some very general forms. The fact is that the practical applications of science bring their own reward, and need no extraneous encouragement; instruction and invention in them may very well, and without the least hardship, be left to those whose pockets they fill. Art receives ample encouragement, and is well rewarded by the nation; let but an artist in any department show himself capable of producing good work, and he will soon find that both the government and private individuals have plenty of rewards to bestow upon him. Science, on the other hand, receives not a penny in the way of assistance or reward, and yet the scientific investigator is the nation's servant and greatest benefactor. Pure scientific research is at present, like virtue, its own reward; the man who devotes himself to such research, unless he has some other means of gaining a livelihood, is likely enough to starve, for all the help he will get from his country; and yet, as it has been shown over and over again, our country's prosperity, the progress of nearly all our industries, and even the very existence of many of them, are dependent on the discoveries of the scientific investigator who pursues his research on purely scientific principles, and with no practical end whatever in view. Our country has got at least as much glory, and we venture to think more practical benefit, from achievements in the region of pure science, as from all that has been accomplished in the domain of art; and yet no helping hand is held out to those who are able and willing to do their country the highest service, but cannot, because they must drudge for a living. The domain of science is every day becoming more and more extended, her methods are becoming more and more complicated, and her instruments more and more expensive; in almost every department paths are being opened up which, if pursued to their end, would certainly lead to discoveries of vital importance to the best welfare and prosperity of the nation. Our public men are continually telling us that we are being outstripped by continental nations in fields which used to be peculiarly our own, and that simply because abroad every encouragement is given to scientific research, while here its existence is either ignored or it is regarded as a mere pastime."

— Dr. Oscar Grimm has published in Siebold and Kölliker's *Zeitschrift* a summary of the results of his investigation of the fauna of the Caspian Sea. The character of this assemblage of life has interest, says *Nature*, for the evolutionist as well as the geologist. It will afford evidence not only of modification of animal life, but also of successive changes in the physical geography of that region. Dredgings were carried on, by means of a steamer, down to one hundred and fifty fathoms, and an enormous quantity of specimens were obtained, including six new fishes, twenty species of mollusca, thirty-five species of crustacea, principally colossal forms of *Gammaridæ*, and twenty species of worms. The western part of the sea gives depths of five hundred and seventeen fathoms, and has a very abundant fauna; at one haul of the dredge in one hundred and eight fathoms, there were taken three hundred and fifty specimens of *Gammaridæ*, one hundred and fifty *Idothea entomon*, fifty colossal *Mysis*, etc. Eighty species in all are new to science.

— Professor Ernst Haeckel's work on The History of Creation, as translated by Mr. Van Rhyn, of New York, will be published early in the year by D. Appleton & Co. An English translation of Haeckel's Anthropogenie is soon to appear in London. Macmillan & Co. advertise a new edition of that choice work, White's Natural History of Selborne. They have also published A Course of Practical Instruction in Elementary Biology, by Professor Huxley and H. N. Martin (crown 8vo, 6s.); and Historia Filicum, by J. Smith, with thirty lithographic plates.

— A second meeting of those proposing to form a mountain exploration club, similar in many respects to the Alpine clubs of England and

Switzerland, was held January 12th at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston. Professor Pickering presided. Mr. S. H. Scudder, of the committee on organization, made a partial report, suggesting several names for the society or club, and defining its object to be the study of comparative geography and the scientific and æsthetic exploration of the highlands of New England and the adjacent regions.

— In Arctic Notes sent to *Land and Water* by an officer of the Pandora, the British Arctic exploring vessel, he says, "I would sooner eat seal's meat than mutton or beef." This is a little exaggerated, perhaps, but we can aver that seal's flesh has a relish to it after a day's dredging on the coast of Labrador, and a meal of boiled whale's flesh is good for a very hungry man. A well-seasoned mince pie made of whale's flesh would scarcely be distinguishable from beef pie.

— Professor Carl J. Sundevall, the venerable and distinguished ornithologist of Stockholm, has lately died. He left works on the morphology of arthropods and other subjects. The botanist, Professor F. G. Bartling, of Göttingen, died in November.

— The medal of the first class, with the diploma, awarded to Professor Hayden, in charge of the Geological Survey of the Territories, by the International Congress of Geographical Sciences which met in Paris in August, has been received through the state department. Professor Hayden has also recently received letters informing him of his election as honorary member of the Italian Geographical Society of Turin, Italy, and foreign corresponding member of the Geographical Society of Paris, France.

PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

Academy of Sciences, St. Louis. — November 15, 1875. Professor Riley remarked that among the changes that took place in those portions of the State so thoroughly devastated by locusts last spring, none were more interesting than the wide-spread appearance of a grass (*Vilfa vaginæflora*) unnoticed in ordinary seasons. The locusts eat down the blue grass so closely that in most instances it died out, and this annual grass takes its place and grows up rapidly just at the time when most needed by stock, so that it is considered a godsend by the farmers, who generally believe that it was brought by the locusts. The seed was scattered over the land the autumn before, and the conditions were all favorable for its starting. In ordinary seasons, on the contrary, it is smothered and choked down by other plants.

December 6th. Prof. C. V. Riley made a communication on jumping seeds from California, motion being imparted to the seeds by inclosed caterpillars of a small moth (*Carpocapsa saltitans*).

December 13th. A paper entitled The Grasshoppers and the Season of 1875 was received from Prof. G. C. Broadhead.